

PUBLIC NOTICE

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4
Water Management Division
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
(404) 562-9263

NOTICE OF EXTENSION OF COMMENT PERIOD OCTOBER 31, 2003 PUBLIC NOTICE

On October 31, 2003, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published notice of availability of the following proposed total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for water quality limited segments in the State of Alabama.

Consistent with Section 303(d)(1)(C) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. § 1313(d)(1)(C), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) implementing regulation, 40 C.F.R. § 130.7(c)(1), the establishment of total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for waters identified by States as not meeting water quality standards under authority of §303(d)(1)(A) of the CWA is required. Each of the TMDLs listed below is to be established at a level necessary to implement applicable water quality standards with seasonal variations and a margin of safety, accounting for lack of knowledge concerning the relationship between effluent limitations and water quality. As stated in the October 31, 2003 Public Notice, a November 5, 1998, Consent Decree in the matter of Edward W. Mudd, II et al. V. John Hankinson et al., Civil Action Number CV-97-S-0714-M, and Alabama Rivers Alliance, Inc., V. John Hankinson et al., Civil Action Number CV-97-S-2518-M, requires EPA to propose TMDLs for public comment in accordance with a specified schedule.

At this time, EPA has developed proposed TMDLS for the following water quality-limited segments and pollutants of concern located in the State of Alabama:

Waterbody	Pollutant(s) of Concern	County(s)	River Basin
Hurricane Creek	Metals (Aluminum, Iron), Pathogens, Turbidity	Tuscaloosa	Black Warrior
Little Hurricane Creek	Metals (Aluminum, Iron, Copper), Pathogens	Tuscaloosa	Black Warrior
North Fork Hurricane Creek	Metals (Aluminum, Iron)	Tuscaloosa	Black Warrior
Shades Creek	Siltation, Turbidity, Other Habitat Alteration	Bibb, Jefferson	Cahaba
Lake Weiss	Priority Organics (PCBs)	Cherokee	Coosa
Bayou la Batre River	Organic Enrichment / Dissolved Oxygen	Mobile	Mobile

At the time of the notice, the public was invited to submit comments about the proposals or to offer new data or information regarding the proposed TMDLs in writing by no later than January 29, 2004. Subsequent to the October 31, 2003 notification, EPA received a request for an extension of the public comment period. EPA has given consideration to this request, and has determined that it is appropriate to extend, for a period of sixty (60) days, the opportunity for the public to provide input to EPA's final decision concerning the aforementioned, proposed TMDLs for the aforementioned waters.

A copy of the report which includes the proposed TMDLs can be obtained by contacting Ms. Sibyl Cole at the address below or through the Internet. The URL address for the proposed TMDLs is: <http://www.epa.gov/region4/water/tmdl/alabama>.

Persons wishing to comment on the proposed TMDLs, the impairment status of waters not included on an approved Section 303(d) list, or to offer new data or information regarding the proposed TMDLs or impairment status are invited to submit the same in writing no later than March 29, 2004, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Water Management Division, 61 Forsyth Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303, ATTENTION: Ms. Sibyl Cole, Standards, Monitoring and TMDL Branch. Ms. Cole's telephone number is (404) 562-9437. Ms. Cole may also be contacted via electronic mail at cole.sibyl@epa.gov.

The proposed TMDLs and the supporting documents, including technical information, data, and analyses, may be reviewed at 61 Forsyth Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Persons wishing to review this information should contact Ms. Cole to schedule a time for that review. Prior to finalizing these TMDLs, EPA will consider only those timely, written comments provided in response to this public notice.

Please bring the foregoing to the attention of persons whom you believe will be interested in this matter.

Jim Kutzman for _____
James D. Giattina, Director
Water Management Division
U.S. EPA Region 4

January 29, 2004
Date